



CCM Testimony

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General Law Committee

February 24, 2023

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent 99% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

HB 6699 “An Act Concerning Cannabis Regulation”

HB 6699 would, among other things, establish off-site event permits for retailers and hybrid retailers of adult-use cannabis, and establish an Office of the Cannabis Ombudsman.

It appears HB 6699 as written, would enable municipalities to prohibit and regulate off-site sales of cannabis through section two of the proposed legislation. This provision is very important to CCM and our organization would be opposed to any legislation that would not give municipalities the ability to adequately regulate these off-site sales.

Section 15 of the bill would create an Office of the Cannabis Ombudsman. CCM has long advocated for designating a Connecticut's Drug Abuse and Control Ombudsman tasked with coordinating efforts to enhance and examine sustainable funding streams to support substance abuse prevention, education and recovery efforts. CCM supports the provision establishing the Office of Cannabis Ombudsman and would also support the creation of the Chief Policy Officer to coordinate efforts as laid out in HB 6698 (see CCM's testimony).

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If you have any questions, please contact [Zachary McKeown](#), Senior Legislative Associate for CCM.